

# opc Bulletin

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA, NEW YORK, NY • October 2011

## O'Shea Book Night to Detail U.S. Newspapers' Plunder

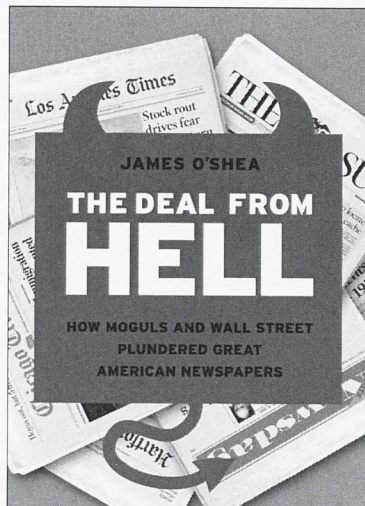
### **EVENT PREVIEW: OCTOBER 5**

by Sonya K. Fry

Jim O'Shea had a front-row seat to the death of the Tribune Company. He spent 27 years as a reporter and then Managing Editor of the *Chicago Tribune*. His in-depth story of the demise of the Tribune Company from the inside track is fascinating reading and is part of the bleak picture for print journalism. The Tribune Company was once among the most powerful media companies in the U.S. owning the *Chicago Tribune*, *Los Angeles Times* and the *Baltimore Sun*, all of whom had major international news gathering operations.

The acquisition of Tribune Company by the real estate billionaire Sam Zell turned out to be, as O'Shea described it, "the deal from hell," but the author traces the roots of this doomed situation back to the merger of the Tribune Company of Chicago and Los Angeles-based Times Mirror Company several years earlier. That deal, the largest merger in journalism history, was a bitter saga of shifting alliances, secret agreements and betrayals. Ironically, in November 2006, Tribune executives sent O'Shea west to be Editor of the *Los Angeles Times* when that paper's staff revolted against Chicago directives on how to run the paper. O'Shea, sensing a

(Continued on Page 2)



Jim O'Shea

## Panel Will Discuss Role of Media During Humanitarian Emergencies

### **EVENT PREVIEW: SEPTEMBER 22**

Whether it's the Arab Spring, the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, the Libyan refugee crisis, or the famine in East Africa, the media influences and challenges what people see, think and feel. Inspired by a comment by the late Tim Hetherington, a photojournalist killed in Libya while covering the war, this event on September 22 at the New York University Wagner Graduate School of Public Service brings together a distinguished panel of experts to discuss the role of media in humanitarian emergencies.

Panelists include **Allan Dodds Frank**, investigative reporter and former OPC president and founder of the OPC's latest website Global Parachute, a new social networking site for foreign correspondents; **Hina Chaudhry, MD**, direc-

tor of Cardiovascular Regenerative Medicine at Mt Sinai, and a CNN guest correspondent who covered the Pakistan floods; **Sam Gregory**, program director, Witness, co-author of *Cameras Everywhere 2011 Report*; and **Cath Turner**, reporter and producer, Al Jazeera English. The panel will be moderated by **Alan Murray**, Deputy Managing Editor and Executive Editor, online, *The Wall Street Journal*.

NYU's Wagner Graduate School of Public Service is presenting the panel. The event is co-sponsored by the OPC and the New York Women's Initiative for CARE and takes place on Thursday, September 22 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at NYU Wagner the Puck Building, 295 Lafayette Street at Houston Street in New York. Seating is limited, RSVP is required; go to the event website <http://wagner.nyu.edu/events>



Allan Dodds Frank

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# O'Shea Book Night to Detail U.S. Newspapers' Plunder

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shift in values from quality writing to quarterly earnings, refused to yield to his bosses and he became another casualty of the toxic deal. "Mr. O'Shea argues that what's killing newspapers isn't the Internet and other forces, but rather the way newspaper executives responded to those forces: 'The lack of investment, the greed, incompetence, corruption, hypocrisy and downright arrogance of people who put their interests ahead of the public's are responsible for the state of the newspaper industry today.'" — Bryan Burrough, *The New York Times*

O'Shea is an OPC member and a former board member. His career in journalism started as a U.S. Army reporter covering Korea for *Stars and Stripes*. He worked at the *Des Moines Register* following the war and then joined the Tribune in 1979. Currently he is back in Chicago as CEO and Editor-in-Chief of the new nonprofit Chicago News Cooperative which produces two pages of local Chicago news that appear twice a week in copies of *The New York Times* distributed in the Chicago area.

Jim O'Shea's Book Night will be held at Club Quarters on Wednesday, October 5. Reception begins at 6 p.m. with the Talk at 6:45 p.m. Books will be available for sale and signing. RSVP by calling the OPC office 212-626-9220 or e-mail [sonya@opcofamerica.org](mailto:sonya@opcofamerica.org).

**O'Shea's own words best provide a glimpse into the book with the subtitle: *How Moguls and Wall Street Plundered Great American Newspapers*.**

In the fall of 2006, Tribune executives asked me to leave my job as managing editor running the *Chicago Tribune* newsroom and become editor of the *Los Angeles Times*. In normal circumstances, being named editor of a storied paper would have been a capstone to a successful career. But these were not normal times. If I took the job, I would become the paper's third editor in just over two years, my predecessors leaving after nasty and public fights with their financially-pressed bosses back in Chicago over continual demands for budget cuts. The *Los Angeles Times* newsroom had become ground zero in a drama pitting editors of newspapers against owners and their Wall Street patrons.

I had doubts about walking into such a poisonous atmosphere. But my grandfather, a born storyteller nicknamed "Sawdust," had taught me early on the power of a good narrative, the ability of a story well-told to overcome adversity. I had a good story. I was first and foremost a journalist, someone who had represented other journalists well, someone who was not afraid to challenge authority, a newsman who would try to solve the huge problems that the *Times* faced without diminishing the quality or integrity of a great newspaper. I took the job, hopelessly entwining my story and my fate with the narrative of a mega-merger gone bad, one that would play a signature role in the collapse of the entire industry. For better or worse, I became eyewitness and participant in the collapse of the Titans.

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## PEOPLE... with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

### SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS:

The OPC Foundation scholarship program has forged a professional friendship. **Francesca (Frankie) Freeman**, graduate of Stanford University and **Jenny Gross**, Northwestern University graduate, met last year when both of them won OPC Foundation scholarships. A few months later, Freeman was appointed metals beat reporter at Dow Jones Newswires in London after working as a Dow Jones intern in San Francisco.

In an e-mail to **Jane Reilly**, Foundation executive director, Freeman wrote: "Jenny and I got in touch about six months ago after she'd applied for a position in our Johannesburg bureau (having stayed on at the AP after her OPC-inspired internship). I flagged up her application to my boss' boss (the EMEA managing editor for energy and commodities) who loved her résumé and interviewed her for a job in London instead. She was snapped up almost straight away, and even managed to score a short-term contract in our South African bureau to tie her over until her move to the U.K."

Gross was hired by Dow Jones Newswire/*Wall Street Journal* in London as an energy reporter, and she started work there September 5. She is seated about two desks away from Freeman. "We're waving the OPC flag proudly here in London," Freeman reported.

**MURDERS:** **Hadi al-Mahdi**, a radio talk show host and a prominent critic of the Iraqi government, was killed by gunmen around 1 p.m. September 8 in the kitchen of his Baghdad house. In a posting on Facebook just three hours before he was shot, he said he had received threatening messages from peo-



Hadi al-Mahdi

ple trying to deter him from holding a protest demonstration the next day calling for more government accountability and better services.



Ana Marcela Yarce, left, and Rocio Trapaga Gonzalez in an undated photo.

Two women journalists were kidnapped August 31 when they left their office in Mexico City, and their bodies were found September 1 in a Mexico City Park. **Ana Maria Yarce Viveros**, founder of the weekly magazine *Contralinea*, and **Rocio González Trápaga**, a freelance journalist, had been strangled. Their clothes had been removed; their hands and feet bound, and ropes left around their necks — hallmark of a drug cartel killing. Both women were 48. Eighty journalists have been killed in Mexico since 2000 including six women.

The body of Mexican journalist **Humberto Millán Salazar**, 53, was found August 25 shot dead in the head. Millán had been kidnapped by gunmen the day before in Culiacan in northwest Mexico. A newsman for 30 years, Millán had just left his office when his car was intercepted by gunmen in two vehicles. Millán was editor of the online newspaper *A-Discussion* and a presenter on the Sin Ambages (Plain Language) radio program. He was a frequent critic of local officials and on the eve of his abduction he had published an article about the municipal

government's management of its accounts. His handicapped brother who was kidnapped with him was released at Millán's request.

Filipino radio commentator **Neil Jimena**, 42, was fatally shot while riding his motorcycle near his home on Negros Island in the Philippines the night of August 22. Two gunmen on a motorcycle fired multiple bullets into him and fled. Jimena broadcast political commentary on station DYIR-RMN in Iloilo City. A local newspaper said he had received threats from a politician he had criticized on the air.

**BATAM, Indonesia:** **Gatot Machali**, manager of Batam-based Radio Era Baru, was sentenced to six months in prison September 6 on charges of broadcasting without permission and disrupting neighboring frequencies. Another three months will be added to his jail sentence if he fails to pay a fine of 50 million rupees (about U.S.\$5,800).



Gatot Machali

**CHAINPUR, Nepal:** **Vikash Rai**, the leading suspect in the August 11 attack on reporter **Kishor Budhathoki**, was arrested in the early morning of August 25 at the home of a relative. Another suspect was arrested August 19. Budhathoki, a reporter in eastern Nepal for the sister papers *The Himalayan Times* and *Annapurna Post*, was attacked by 10 assailants with knives and sticks in his home, leaving him with severe head injuries. He spent several weeks in a hospital. Rai had served several prison sentences.

**DAMASCUS:** Masked gunmen seized and severely beat **Ali Farzat**,

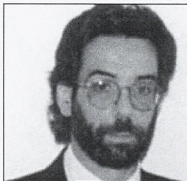
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Syria's best-known political cartoonist, at 4:30 a.m. on August 25 while he was heading home from his studio. Two fingers on one hand were broken, his other arm fractured and an eye was bruised. Farzat's cartoons were aimed at Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. The attack came days after Farzat published a cartoon showing Assad hitching a ride out of town with Colonel Muammar el-Qaddafi of Libya.

**HAVANA:** The Cuban government has revoked the press credentials of **Mauricio Vicent**, 47, a 20-year correspondent for the Spanish daily *El Pais* and radio network Cadena SER. Authorities accused Vicent of bias and negative reporting. It was the latest in a series of steps by the communist government against foreign journalists and news organizations for alleged bias and negative reporting.



Mauricio Vicent

**HONG KONG:** The long lives of two British foreign correspondents who live in Hong Kong: **Clare Hollingworth** will reach 100 on October 10, and **Anthony Lawrence** turned 99 on August 12. In 1939 on her first overseas assignment, Clare telephoned her London editor from Poland with an eyewitness account of Germany's invasion of Poland that started World War II. After the war she spent 40 years with London's *Daily Telegraph*, and reported conflicts in Palestine, Algeria, China, Aden and Vietnam. Summing up his decades as the BBC's Far East correspondent, Tony said, "I found it completely fulfilling and challenging." He is a former president of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Hong Kong.

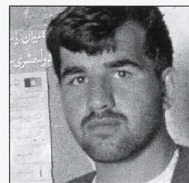


Clare Hollingworth

Two top news executives at Asia Television announced their resignations September 5, taking responsibility

for an apparently false report two months earlier that former Chinese President Jiang Zemin had died. They were **Leung ka-wing**, a senior vice president, and his deputy, **Tammy Tan Wai-yee**.

**KABUL:** NATO officials acknowledged on September 8 that an American soldier fatally shot Afghan journalist **Ahmed Omed Khpulwak**, 25, who was reporting for BBC, mistaking him for a suicide bomber. NATO officials apologized to the reporter's family and issued a two-page summary of the incident. The report said the soldier believed Khpulwak had fired on American troops and was about to detonate a suicide vest. Khpulwak died July 28 when violence between insurgents and security forces targeted the governor's office and police headquarters in Tarin Kot, capital of Uruzgan province in central Afghanistan.



Ahmed Omed Khpulwak

**KHARTOUM, Sudan:** President Omar Al-Bashir told reporters on August 27 that he intends to free all journalists imprisoned in Sudan. Released the next day was **Gafar Alsabki Ibrahim**, a journalist with the Arabic-language daily *Al-Sahafa*, who had been detained since last November. Seven employees of Radio Dabanga were still being held.

**MOGADISHU, Somalia:** African Union peacekeepers fired on a government army truck that was accompanying a media vehicle September 2, and a stray bullet hit **Noramfaizul Mohd Nor**, 39, a cameraman with Malaysia's national Bernama TV who was seated by the door of the press vehicle. The bullet pierced his lungs, killing him. Another journalist was wounded. They were covering the famine in Somalia. An explanation for the shooting was not immediately forthcoming.

**MOSCOW:** Lieutenant Colonel Dmitry Pavlyuchenkov, a former senior police official, was arrested August 23 on suspicion of organizing the 2006 murder of **Anna**

**Politkovskaya**, an investigative reporter on a newspaper critical of government authorities. She was shot dead in a lift at the block of apartments where she lived. The suspected triggerman, Rustan Makhmudov, was arrested in May along with his two brothers, suspected of being drivers during the murder. The Makhmudov brothers were acquitted for lack of evidence in 2009, but the verdict was overturned by Russia's Supreme Court, which ordered them to be re-tried.

**Zorana Bojovic**, correspondent for the Serbian news agency BETA, and her husband, Russian journalist **Gennady Sysoyev**, were attacked and beaten in a town near Moscow August 14. Bojovic spent several days in a hospital due to the severity of her injuries. She said police and prosecutors refused to look into the attack.

**NEW YORK:** OPC member **Gergana Koleva** served on the committee that counted ballots for the OPC board in August. When recruited, she shared this story: "My mother used to sit on local vote counting committees sometimes in the early years after the Iron Curtain came down in Eastern Europe and governments changed in Bulgaria... It would be nice to see myself too in that role now, although clearly in much different circumstances."



Gergana Koleva

On her first day as executive editor of *The New York Times*, September 6, **Jill Abramson** announced the appointment of two new assistant managing editors: **Susan Chira**, foreign editor since 2004 and former Tokyo correspondent; and **Richard L. Berke**, a longtime Washington reporter and most recently national editor. Appointed foreign editor was



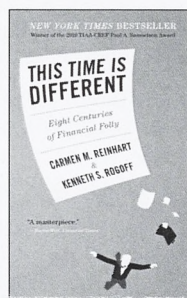
Jill Abramson



**Joseph Kahn**, deputy foreign editor, former Beijing correspondent and co-winner of the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for international reporting for a series on injustice in China's rapidly evolving legal system.



The Council on Foreign Relations selected *This Time is Different: Eight Centuries of Financial Folly* [Princeton University Press] for its 10th annual Arthur Ross Book Award for the best book on international affairs. The authors, **Carmen M. Reinhart** of the Peterson Institute for International Economics and **Kenneth S. Rogoff** of Harvard University, received \$15,000 at a ceremony September 8. Their book presents a comprehensive look at the varieties of financial crises, and guides us through eight centuries of government defaults, banking panics, and inflationary spikes — from medieval currency debasements to today's sub-prime catastrophe.



The silver medal and \$7,500 was awarded to **Thomas Hegghammer** of the Norwegian Defense Research Establishment for *Jihad in Saudi Arabia: Violence and Pan-Islamism since 1979* (Cambridge University Press). Honorable mention and \$2,500 went to **Whitney Shepardson**, a senior fellow at the Council for Foreign Relations, for *How Enemies Become Friends: The Sources of Stable Peace* (Princeton University Press).



*Marie Claire* magazine picked five female news producers to profile. From the three major networks and CNN, these “women who run the show” share their accomplishments, nightmares, and stories behind the story. In the August issue of the magazine, “Meet the Press” executive producer **Betsy Fischer** describes her proudest accomplishment; **Katie Nelson Thomson**, senior broadcast



**Betsy Fischer behind the scenes.**

producer of “Piers Morgan Tonight” and former Barbara Walters producer, describes an early “get;” “48 Hours Mystery” field producer **Kristin Whiting** explains the worst part of her job; **Santina Leuci**, senior editorial producer of “Good Morning America,” lives the morning show wars; and **Subrata De**, senior producer of “NBC Nightly News With Brian Williams,” describes what makes her proud.

**QUITO, Ecuador: Emilio Palacio**, op-ed editor of *El Universo*, disclosed in August that he had fled to the United States after he and three of the newspaper's board members were sentenced to three years in prison in a dispute over coverage of Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa. In a February column, Palacio questioned the president's handling of a police uprising in which three persons were killed last year. A judge ordered the four defendants to pay the president the equivalent of U.S.\$30 million in damages and imposed a \$10 million fine on the newspaper.



**Emilio Palacio**

**SULAYMANIYAH, Iraqi Kurdistan: Asos Hardi**, founder and editor of the independent newspaper *Awene (The Citizen)* was severely beaten by an unidentified gunman when he left his office around 7 p.m. August 29. He was left with six bruises on his head, and his wounds were closed with 32 stitches. Reporters Without Borders said in a statement, “Despite repeated pledges by Kurdistan President Massoud Barzani,



**Asos Hardi**

the number of cases of physical violence and abusive treatment of journalists has been increasing steadily ever since a wave of protests began in mid-February.”

The attack on Hardi came amid a surge in violence in the region. Since August, there has been repeated military intervention in Iraqi Kurdistan by Iran's Revolutionary Guards, the Turkish armed forces and Syrian elements. Many civilians have been killed in the border region.



**Journalists gather in a corridor at the Rixos hotel in Tripoli.**

**TRIPOLI:** Journalists from media organizations including the BBC, the Associated Press, Reuters, CNN and Fox were held for five days in August by two Qaddafi soldiers who refused to leave their posts as the regime collapsed around them. **Matthew Price**, a BBC correspondent held at the Rixos, said he feared for his life. The journalists believed they could be used as human shields and the hotel used as a barracks for a “last stand” by the regime.

*The New York Times* reported that journalists trapped in the Rixos Hotel described a darkening mood there, wondering what would happen to them as the Qaddafi loyalists who still controlled the building became increasingly cornered. For months, foreign journalists officially invited to Libya were kept in the hotel under watch by government minders and far from scenes of unscripted opposition to Colonel Qaddafi. But as Qaddafi went missing, such control was no longer possible. “It is ongoing and it's not just a firefight. We're talking about heavy explosions,” **Matthew Chance**, a CNN reporter, reported from the hotel. “This is a huge, all-out

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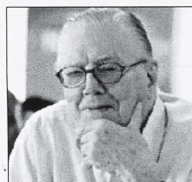
battle for control.”

The two guards were disarmed after a “heart to heart” with Matthew Chance on August 24. The journalists were sped from the Rixos to a rebel-held hotel by cars from the International Red Cross.

**VIENNA:** The late *Wall Street Journal* correspondent **Daniel Pearl** and the South African editor **Raymond Louw** were named World Press Freedom Heroes by the Vienna-based International Press Institute in September. Pearl was kidnapped in Karachi in January 2002 and murdered while on the trail of shoe bomber Richard Reid. A longtime champion of press freedom and journalists’ rights, Louw worked on newspapers in England and South Africa, was editor of the anti-apartheid *Rand Daily Mail*, and editor and publisher of *Southern Africa Report*, a current affair weekly that he sold early this year. He has headed several South African press associations. The annual IPI World Congress will be held in Taipei from September 24 to 27.



Daniel Pearl



Raymond Louw

◆

The English-language monthly *The Vienna Review* has entered into partnership with the Falter Verlag, publishers of the weekly city paper the *Falter*. The new company, titled Vienna Review Publishing GesmbH, is a joint venture between *The Vienna Review*’s founder, editor, publisher and OPC member **Dardis McNamee**, and Falter Verlagsgruppe partners CEO **Siegmar Schlager** and Editor in Chief **Armin Thurnher**. *The Vienna Review* launched in 2006, as a publication of the Vienna Journalism Institute.



Dardis McNamee

## Two Documentaries Pay Tribute to September 11th

The Center for National Policy, in cooperation with the OPC, hosted an advance screening of two short-form documentary films narrated by **Tom Hanks** — “Rescue Armada” and “Rebuild” — on August 31. The pre-screening was followed by a Q&A with Center for National Policy President and national security expert **Dr. Stephen Flynn**. The documentaries were created exclusively for the 9/11 Tenth Anniversary Summit, which was held at the Newseum in Washington D.C. on September 8.

The day-long summit was presented by the Center for National Policy, Voices of September 11th and the Rockefeller Foundation, and guest speakers included political leaders, engineers, 9/11 survivors, FEMA administrators, Coast Guard members and more. The discussions centered around a series of documentaries and discussions of how the attacks demonstrated American social, political and infrastructure resilience — and how we can isolate the factors that make a resilient society, to ensure that we stay that way. Videos of the event are online at [road2resilience.com](http://road2resilience.com).



Photo from the short film, “Rebuild,” which is about the World Trade Center today.



New Zealand Press Association's main news room in Wellington.

**WELLINGTON:** New Zealand’s news agency, the New Zealand Press Association, closed on August 31 after 132 years serving New Zealand media and once with correspondents in London, Hong Kong and Washington. Forty journalists lost their jobs with the closure of offices in Wellington, Auckland and Sydney.

The Association was the victim of the Internet and the decision by Australia’s Fairfax Media, owner of more than 70 newspapers in New Zealand, to cancel its relations with NZPA. Many New Zealand newspapers share stories with each other, making a news agency redundant. To fill the void, the Australian new agency AAP is increasing its New Zealand staff from one to nine correspondents.

## PEOPLE REMEMBERED

**William Donald McKay**, 86, a wire service correspondent in Canada, Europe and Asia, died of colon cancer August 28 in Wolfville, Nova Scotia. MacKay reported on the birth of NATO, the Cold War and the death of Winston Churchill. He was one of the first western journalists to be allowed into China during the early days of the Cultural Revolution. McKay started his career after World War II, working for Canadian Press in Halifax, Montreal and Winnipeg. In 1951, he joined United Press in London and later ran UP’s bureau in Lisbon, Portugal. He was news director of Radio Europe in Munich from 1956 to 1959 and in 1970 returned to Montreal as UPI’s managing director for Canada. Five years later, McKay left the news business and wrote 11 books including *The Lumberjacks* and *Scotland Farewell: The People of the Hector* which were finalists for the Governor General’s Award.

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**Kirsty Hamilton**, 62, an Australian news broadcaster in Hong Kong and New York, died in Melbourne August 19

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# Judge Refuses to Punish CIA for Destroying Torture Tapes

In a major setback for freedom of information, transparency, and accountability of government, a Federal judge has allowed the CIA to defy his own order and destroy 92 videotapes showing terrorist suspects being tortured.

In a suit filed by the American Civil Liberties Union, Judge Alvin K. Hellerstein of the U.S. district court for the southern district of New York refused on August 1 to hold the Central Intelligence Agency in contempt of court for destroying the tapes in 2005, a year after Hellerstein ordered the agency to produce or identify all records on the treatment of detainees in CIA custody.

The tapes recorded the interrogation, including waterboarding, of Abu Zubaidah, a suspected member of Al Qaeda who has been held for nine years but never charged with any offenses, and Abd Al-Rahim Al-Nashiri, accused of plotting the bombing of the U.S. destroyer Cole. The

CIA did not admit that the tapes had existed until 2007, when *The New York Times* disclosed that they had been destroyed.

Federal prosecutors had already decided not to file charges against any of the CIA officials who destroyed the tapes. Then-CIA chief Michael Hayden said they were erased to protect the identity of CIA operatives. But the ACLU argued that the destruction "showed complete disdain for the court and the rule of law itself."

Although Hellerstein declined to hold the CIA in contempt, he reprimanded the agency for evading the law and ordered it to pay all the ACLU's legal expenses in the case. The judge told the ACLU representatives, "What you and your colleagues have done in getting this story to the American public has been extraordinary." But he added: "Bottom line, we're in a dangerous world. We need our spies. We also need surveillance."

Even more, the public needs to know what its government is doing, and that its officials are not violating the principles they have sworn to uphold.

The Obama administration would do well to replay the President's own promises of transparency and full accountability.

**Larry Martz**  
Chairman

Freedom of the Press Committee

The Freedom of the Press Committee wrote a letter to the Russian government August 30 regarding the arrest of retired Lieutenant Colonel Dmitry Pavlyuchenkov who is charged with leading the gang of killers who murdered journalist **Anna Politkovskaya** in her home October 2006. The letter stated, in part:

"We share the hope of our colleague, Sergei Sokolov, deputy editor of *Novaya Gazeta*, that the arrest of Dmitry Pavlyuchenkov will be the event that leads to the identification of those who ordered Politkovskaya's killing. As Sokolov put it in an interview this week, "When not only low-level executors but the suspected organizers and the suspected gunman are on trial, then we can have a serious prosecution that could lead to the finding of the mastermind."

## People Remembered: (Continued From Page 6)

of liver cancer. From the 1970s to the early 1980s, Kirsty was the host of a Hong Kong RTHK radio program of popular music and interviews on current affairs with local residents and prominent people including Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, Cambodian Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the commander of Nationalist China's remnant Fifth Army that trafficked in opium in Thailand and the last feudal overlord of Swat, an area of Pakistan. In 1981, she moved to New York to earn a master's degree at Columbia University and a fellowship at the World Press Institute in St. Paul, Minnesota. She then worked for CBS News, the Satellite Business Channel and Prodigy, a dial-up online news and information channel. In New York, Kirsty met and married banker Harrison Young of Morgan Stanley, whose career took them to Beijing, Hong Kong and Melbourne. He and their son Angus survive.

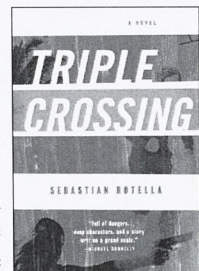


**Leonidas Kyrkos**, 87, a Greek journalist, politician and longtime member of the Greek Communist Party, died August 28 in an Athens hospital. He worked many years as a reporter and later editor of the left-wing daily newspaper *Avgi*. Kyrkos was elected to the Greek Parliament five times and twice to the European Parliament.



## New Books: (Continued From Page 8)

Pescatore, a border patrol agent who makes a mistake that leaves him vulnerable to coercion, and to keep his job and avoid prosecution he must go underground to root out corrupt Border Patrol agents; his handler Isabel Puente; and Leobardo Mendez, a journalist who becomes a human rights commissioner and later head of a special police unit. The three of them pursue Junior Ruiz Caballero, leader of a cartel that smuggles people and dope from Mexico into the United States in exchange for guns and cash. A review by **Nancie Clare** in *The Los Angeles Times* describes the scene, "Everything is for sale, and the intersection of business and politics in a lawless environment makes for interesting bedfellows."



— by **Al Kaff**

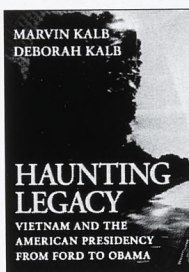


# New Books

## GLOBAL

### VIETNAM IS THE GHOST

haunting every U.S. president since 1975 who faces a decision about going to war. **Marvin Kalb**, a veteran foreign correspondent, and his daughter, journalist **Deborah Kalb**, document how Vietnam has spooked presidents in *Haunting Legacy: Vietnam and the American Presidency from Ford to Obama* [Washington: Brookings Institute Press]. It was the capture of the American cargo ship Mayaguez by Cambodia's revolutionary forces in 1975 when Gerald Ford was in the White House, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979 when Jimmy Carter was president, the deaths of 241 Marines in Beirut in 1983 that plagued Ronald Reagan, the Persian Gulf War that faced George H. W. Bush, and the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan during the terms of George W. Bush and Barack Obama. In a review, former OPC member



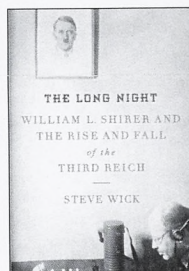
Deborah and Marvin Kalb

**Arnaud de Borchgrave**, editor-at-large of *The Washington Times* and UPI, wrote, "Vietnam has infiltrated the presidential DNA, even though presidents have struggled with this DNA in different ways. . . . The Iraq invasion and decade-long war was a trillion-dollar mistake. Too bad the Vietnam syndrome did not prevail."

## EUROPE

### HE WAS EVERYWHERE WHILE

Hitler rose to power. That is what **Steve Wick** writes about **William L. Shirer** in *The Long Night: William L. Shirer and 'The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich'* [New York: Palgrave Macmillan]. Shirer went to Berlin in 1934 as a correspondent for Universal Service, and he joined CBS News in 1937. Shirer was in Vienna for the union of Austria and Germany, in Munich for Neville Chamberlin's



"peace in our time" capitulation to Hitler, in Prague when the Germans invaded Czechoslovakia, with the German Sixth Army as it moved across Belgium into France, in Paris after the city fell to the Germans, and in Compiegne for the French surrender. Shirer was 15 when he read **John Reed's** history of the Russian revolution, *Ten Days That Shook the World*, and Shirer then knew he wanted to be a foreign correspondent. At 21 after graduating from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Shirer hopped a cattle ship to France, agreeing to shovel manure along the way. Shirer's 1960 book *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich* was the first serious narrative history of Hitler's reign, **Dwight Garner** wrote in a *New York Times* review. The book sold 1 million copies in hardcover. Wick, the book's author, is a senior editor at *Newsday*.

## NORTH AMERICA

### THE SMUGGLING OF DOPE

and people from Mexico into the United States has been big business for the past 20 years or so. **Sebastian Rotella**, a former *Los Angeles Times* correspondent who has won several OPC awards, knows the border area well. He writes about the pursuit of justice by law enforcers on both side of the border in his novel *Triple Crossing* [New York: Mulholland Books]. The main characters are Valentine

(Continued on Page 7)

## Coming Up. . .

Panel Discussion:  
Humanitarian  
Emergencies  
NYU

Thursday, September 22

Book Night:  
Jim O'Shea  
The Deal From Hell  
Club Quarters  
Wednesday, October 5

Overseas Press Club of America  
40 West 45 Street  
New York, NY 10036 USA